

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009
MEETING MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jeff Hedberg, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

<u>Board:</u>	Jeff Hedberg, Jonathan Boni, Robert Tofeldt, Mary Udice, Neal Forte, Jeff Perillo, Kenneth Leggo, Bill DeBlasio
<u>Board Members Absent:</u>	Don Woods, Eileen Francolino
<u>Staff:</u>	Superintendent Bruce Till and Special Events Coordinator Jodi Lee
<u>Town Council Liaison:</u>	Jay Bottalico

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

MOTION: Bob Tofeldt made a motion to approve the minutes of September 15, 2009. Mary Udice seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes of September 15, 2009 was unanimously approved with a 8-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

Bruce Till distributed copies of thank you notes he received regarding Beechwood Park, the school grounds and fields, the library, and one correspondence regarding the skate park.

Jeff Hedberg received a correspondence from Ken Leggo's family thanking the Board for their donation.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Bruce reminded everyone that their September Monthly Report was in their packets.

YOUTH SPORT UPDATES

All the programs seem to be running smoothly. There were some concerns in the past regarding Basketball. By-laws have now been established, try-outs are underway, and interviews for the coaching staff are being done.

A policy-making decision needs to be reviewed by the Board. The policy "Resident Status/Eligibility" on page 5 in the Newington Parks & Recreation Department Public Facility Permit Application dated 1/1/07 needs to be reviewed. The statement reads "the group or organization must consist of a least 90% Newington Residents." It was brought to Bruce Till's attention that the Newington Swim Club may not be following this policy. The Board will invite the Newington Swim Club to the next Board Meeting to discuss their selection process.

Another organization that was questioned was the Football League. The organization has proven that they do meet the requirements and they do not have a selection process.

Bob Tofeldt made a comment that since Clem Lemire complex is a state complex, this policy should be reviewed for those organizations who play at the Clem Lemire Complex.

NEWINGTON CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Meetings were held with this organization regarding working together on programs and advertising. Parks & Recreation is waiting to hear back from the Newington Children's Theatre.

SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD/CLEM LEMIRE UPDATE

Jeff Hedberg updated the Board on the sub-committee meeting for the synthetic turf field. There was a meeting just prior to the Board Meeting with Milone & MacBroom who submitted two proposals: Version A & Version B. The recommendation of this sub-committee to the Park & Recreation Board of Directors is Version A. The additional cost needed to construct a "Class A" state approved field could not be justified.

Additional sports striping, additional field lighting, 2 sets of 200 ADA approved bleachers, and an irrigation system were included in Version A's proposal. Things omitted include extra bleacher seats, press box, new scoreboard, gateway feature, and parking improvements. The field being built will accommodate all sports in town including football, soccer, etc. It will meet all requirements except for State Tournaments.

Bruce Till will be putting a cost summary together with the new proposed field wish list. Once this is put together, it will be reviewed by the sub-committee, then the Parks & Recreation Board of Directors, and then sent to the Town Council.

PLAYGROUND UPDATE

Beechwood Park is now complete. Pictures were passed to show the Board. Beacon Park should be started this week. Two basketball courts were overlaid; one at Beechwood Park and one at Churchhill Park. Some swingsets at Churchill Park do not meet code and will be replaced. Starr Park will be the next park to work on. The master plan of working on the neighborhood parks is well underway. The numbers for these projects will be given at the next meeting. One important note of cost savings is all the work has been done by our staff. No one had to be contracted for the job.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Next week information will be obtained from the Finance Department regarding the Capital Improvement Budget for next year. The Board should identify projects for next year. One goal of the Parks & Recreation Department is to move to an on-line registration program.

B. WEST MEADOW CEMETERY

Bob Tofeldt asked when the new section of the cemetery will be available for sale. The prices were recommended by the West Meadow Cemetery Committee and being sent to the Town Council for review and approval.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Neal Forte made a motion to adjourn, Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 8:10 PM with an 8-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Lee
Parks & Recreation
Special Events Coordinator